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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Korea/USSR

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SUBJECT Analysis of Soviet Rubber Tourniquet

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1. Both X-ray diffraction and infra red absorption tests show that the elastomer is natural rubber.
2. The major pigment loading is whiting [calcium carbonate], constituting roughly half of the weight of the compound. The identity of the loading pigment was established by X-ray diffraction. Ashing a known weight of sample gave the concentration of the whiting.
3. The material showed a tensile strength of 860 lbs per square inch and an ultimate elongation of 1430%. These properties are characteristic of a distinct undercure, but this may have been intentional in order to secure a low modulus and high elongation. The tourniquet is probably quite adequate for its intended purpose.

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